

Scientific Note

A NEW SYNONYM IN *MASTOGENIUS* SOLIER (COLEOPTERA: BUPRESTIDAE)

Mastogenius castlei Champlain & Knull has been known only by the holotype (sex not indicated), collected at Miami, Florida (Champlain, A. B. & J. N. Knull. 1922. Entomol. News, 33: 144–149). *Mastogenius antennatus* Cazier was described (Cazier, M. A. 1952. Amer. Mus. Nov., 1562: 1–10) from a male collected on South Bimini Island, Bahamas, then recorded (Knull, J. N. 1954. Ohio J. Sci., 54: 294–296) from southern Florida (Long Key, Monroe Co.; three specimens in the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago). On 31 May 1969, at Tavernier, Key Largo Key, Monroe Co., Florida, I beat seven specimens from *Conocarpus erectus* L., of which four match *M. castlei* and three match *M. antennatus*. One specimen matching *M. antennatus* was reared from pods of *Tamarindus indica* L. and was collected 17 Feb 1989 on Big Pine Key, Monroe Co., Florida, em. 18 Jul 1989, U.S. National Museum of Natural History.

A survey of the literature, particularly recent papers by Manley (e.g., Manley, G. V. 1987. Entomol. News, 98: 1–9), indicates that sexual dimorphism is the general rule in *Mastogenius*, most commonly in the antennae, less so in color. I have examined these specimens and compared the male genitalia of the *M. antennatus* holotype to that on a Florida specimen. Specimens referable to *M. castlei* are female. Based on this and the fact they were collected together at the same time and from the same plant at Tavernier, I consider them to be conspecific and create a synonymy as:

Mastogenius castlei Champlain & Knull 1922: 145.

Mastogenius antennatus Cazier 1952: 6. NEW SYNONYMY.

The heavily damaged holotype of *M. castlei* appears to be colored differently than described by Knull. The head is black with strong green reflections, while the pronotum is dark blue-green. The elytra are dark brown, with red-copper hues laterally and with a golden to green strip adjacent and mesad along the apical half. The basal quarters of the elytra are green-golden. This color pattern is evident on two Tavernier specimens, but the metallic hues are subdued, especially on the elytra. The other two specimens have the head and pronotum dark brown or brown-black, and there are only vague metallic reflections of the brown elytra.

The holotype is 2.8 mm long and the others are 2.2 mm. The only variation I found to be notable in males was size (1.9–2.3 mm) and the elytral vestiture, which is denser on the holotype of *M. antennatus*. In both sexes the pronotal setae are predominantly brown, instead of vaguely yellow-white as on the elytra. Females primarily differ from males by having much shorter and less setose antennae that scarcely, if at all, reach the base of the pronotum. Females also differ in color (males are uniformly brown-black), and by their sparser vestiture. The latter is particularly noticeable in comparing the elytra. Additionally, the last visible abdominal segment of the male is more coarsely and densely punctate. A key exists (Nelson, G. H. 1985. Coleop. Bull., 39: 133–146) to North American

species (treated under *Haplostethus* LeConte), and no modification is necessary except for a change of name in couplet 6.

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